

Secretary of Defense William S. Cohen

At the Swearing In Ceremony of the DoD Chancellor for Education and Professional Development

PENTAGON, OCT. 1, 1998

Secretary Cohen

I'm delighted to be here to celebrate the investiture of Dr. [Jerome F.] Smith and the beginning of a new era in this Department's education of its civilian workforce.

President Kennedy once said that "Our progress as a nation can be no swifter than our progress in education." That's equally true of this Department.

Over the years we have put a lot of focus on training our service members and officers, and the rewards I think, have been immeasurable. We now have to put the same emphasis on developing the skills of our vital civilian workforce.

The 730,000 civilians who serve DoD form a cadre of unsurpassed talent, expertise, and promise, and the strength of this Department and the security of this nation hinge in no small measure on their ability to realize their full potential, and therefore it's critically important that we provide world-class professional development education for our employees.

So it's with great pleasure that I welcome "Jerry" Smith as the first Chancellor for Education and Professional Development. He is uniquely qualified and suited to lead our civilian education effort. The Department of Education system is in his blood from his first days as a

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DR. JEROME F. "JERRY" SMITH, JR.

FIRST DoD CHANCELLOR FOR EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

"I've been in the military education system since I signed up in 1957 as a midshipman, and that's one of the [best] things about the professional military education system. It's a lifelong process."

— Dr. Jerome F. Smith, Jr.

midshipman at Annapolis to his most recent post as Dean of the Information Resources Management College.

I have full confidence in his ability to establish this position as a vigorous, visionary guiding hand on matters involving civilian education. I know he has the support of the entire Department, particularly those in our educational community who support him in his new role.

This appointment is also another milestone in our Defense Reform Initiative, which has had a very successful first year thanks to Dr. Hamre. Credit really does belong to John [Hamre] and Bill Houley and the thousands of employees throughout this Department who have contributed their energy and creativity to making DoD a better, more efficient organization. And I'd like to offer special thanks to Vice Admiral Jack Baldwin who has done a fantastic job in creating the blueprint for this chancellorship. All of you – I want to express my thanks for your great contribution.

(Chancellor sworn in by Deputy Secretary Hamre)

Dr. Smith

Thank you Secretary Cohen and Dr. Hamre. It is indeed an honor for me to have your support in undertaking this new challenge. As the Secretary mentioned, I have personally benefited from the emphasis the U.S. military has placed on education and lifelong learning for career development.

For the past six years I have been privileged to be a part of the professional military education system at its flagship organization, the National Defense University. Both the Industrial College of the Armed Forces and the Information Resources Management College include civilian members of the Department of Defense as well as other Federal Government civilians as members of their student body.

I know just how much these folks benefit from and value their opportunity for education experience, but I also know that few of our civilians get such a chance.

Therefore, I am delighted to be given the task of working with the educational and career development resources which the Department supports to ensure our civilian workforce has systematic access to quality educational programs.

I must be able to assure Departmental leadership that the significant funding invested in education and in education resources is receiving the highest quality return possible.

I look forward to organizing this new office and developing close working relationships with the leaders of our many educational institutions and programs carrying out this work today.

I want to thank Dr. Diane Disney and Vice Admiral Jack Baldwin for their pioneering work in identifying the elements of this challenge. Secretary Cohen, Dr. Hamre, I appreciate your confidence in my ability to pull this together, and I pledge my full energies to carry out the mission assigned.

College Art Director Sculpts Tribute to David Packard

Greg Caruth, Director of the Defense Systems Management College Visual Arts and Press Department, has added another bronze sculpture to the DSMC main campus at Fort Belvoir, Va. Two years ago he created a bust of DSMC's first commandant, Army Brig. Gen. Winfield Scott, which resides in Scott Hall. Now, he has added a bust of David Packard, Deputy Secretary of Defense in the early 1970s.

The bust will reside permanently in the lobby of the DSMC headquarters building. Caruth decided to portray Packard in his later years, which is the way he [Caruth] remembered him from his return visits to the campus.

Says Caruth, "Scott and Packard are two people to whom I feel the College owes great respect and remembrance. I'm very proud the College has welcomed my efforts to capture them for future generations to enjoy. This way their contributions won't be forgotten."

Caruth is one of the few original DSMC employees still at the College, having served as an enlisted graphic artist on the staff of the original Defense Systems Management School back in 1971.

The clay original, which took about 35 hours to create at his home, was molded and cast at Equestrian Forge foundry in Leesburg, Va. The pedestal was created for DSMC by Tim Lavelle in the Carpentry Shop on post.

